

# CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

MASSACHUSETTS

*In City Council,* September 20, 2012

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz and  
City Council President William H. Dwight

*Ordered, that*

- Whereas, Sojourner Truth, although born into slavery, became one of the most prominent Americans working for the abolition of slavery and for women's suffrage; and
- Whereas, her fame exceeded the terrestrial in 1997 when the U.S. launched a roving probe on Mars, with a wheeled robotic component named Sojourner, after a year-long, worldwide contest in which each student named a heroine and submitted an essay about her historical accomplishments; and
- Whereas, Sojourner Truth lived in the Florence section of Northampton, where she worked with the Northampton Association of Education and Industry, gracing the town with her speeches and other work on behalf of justice; and
- Whereas, Northampton is historically significant in her life because it is where Sojourner Truth bought her first home and where she published her famous autobiography; and
- Whereas, ten years ago a group of Northampton citizens came together to commission and erect a memorial to this great American and they presented this statue as a lasting gift to the future generations of Northampton; and
- Whereas, the Mayor and City Council on behalf of the City of Northampton were grateful then and remain so one decade later for the dedication and continuing hard work of this grassroots committee.

## **Now Therefore, Be It Resolved:**

that the Northampton City Council acknowledges formally the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the design, casting, and placement of the landscaped Sojourner Truth Memorial Statue at the intersection of Pine and Park Streets in Florence, and

## **Be it Further Resolved:**

that the Northampton City Council acknowledges formally the value of this memorial project for all citizens of Northampton, our children, and all justice-seeking people everywhere, throughout the past decade and onward into our future.

In City Council, September 20, 2012  
Rules suspended, passed two readings and enrolled.

Attest: May L. Medina, Clerk of Council

Approved: David J. Narkewicz, Mayor  
A true copy.

Attest: May L. Medina, Clerk of Council